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Press Release

Guilty Plea in puppy mill case

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RANDOLPH - Missy's Puppyland is closed, and so is the animal cruelty case against its owner Linda Snow.

“Linda Snow pled guilty to everything today,” District Attorney William Keating said after the proceeding. “Seven counts of animal cruelty and one indictment of wanton destruction of property for allowing animal filth to ruin the home she was leasing.”

Snow, 56, who ran Missy's Puppyland on Park Street in Stoughton, was leasing a home on Thayer Circle in Randolph when the landlord of that home arrived on May 28, 2008 and peered through the front door to see dozens of dogs inside and swarms of flies. Law Enforcement personnel from the Animal Rescue League of Boston responded to the scene. The Randolph Health Inspector condemned the property on the spot.

After acquiring a court-order to seize the animals within, Animal Rescue League officers took 89 dogs including many newborn puppies from the property. All were filthy, some were encased in mats of fecal material and hair, some were malnourished.

Judge Paul Chernoff sentenced Snow, who had no previous criminal record, to 3 years supervised probation followed by a year of unsupervised probation.

The Commonwealth had requested that Snow not be allowed to own or have any contact with animals; the Court ordered that she own no animals other than two she identified as personal pets. Any animal returned to her will have a microchip monitoring device implanted, will be subject to impromptu inspection, and will be spayed or neutered. Snow must surrender that animal if unable to care for them. She can have no other contact with companion animals and must stay away from the offices of the Animal Rescue League in Boston and the landlord of the damaged property.

Personnel from the Animal Rescue League were present for the plea and approved of the outcome. An attorney for the owner of the property on Thayer Circle was also consulted prior to the plea.

Snow's co-defendant, Mark Zimmerman, has had a warrant out for his arrest since he defaulted on his Norfolk Superior Court arraignment in July.

Any and all defendants mentioned are legally innocent until proven guilty.